

AN ACT

relating to boater education and examinations on preventing the spread of exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plants, fish, and shellfish.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 31.108, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) A boater education course or equivalency examination under this section must include information on how to prevent the spread of exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plants, fish, and shellfish, including department-approved methods for cleaning:

(1) a boat;

(2) a boat's motor;

(3) fishing and other equipment; and

(4) a boat trailer.

SECTION 2. The Parks and Wildlife Department boater education courses and equivalency examinations must include information on how to prevent the spread of exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plants, fish, and shellfish as required by Section 31.108(a-1), Parks and Wildlife Code, as added by this Act, on or before January 1, 2014.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

H.B. No. 597

1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 597 was passed by the House on April 3, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 147, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 597 was passed by the Senate on May 9, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor